

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 BEIRUT 05514 301005Z

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ACTION NEA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /010 W
----- 105501
R 291625Z APR 75
FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4128

C O N F I D E N T I A L BEIRUT 5514

STADIS////////////////////////////////////

FOR NEA/ARN KORN FROM AMBASSADOR

EO 11652: GDS
TAGS: MASS, LE, US
SUBJECT: FMS FOR LEBANON

REF: STATE 082866; BEIRUT 4831; USDAO BEIRUT 253

1. BOTH DCM AND DATT HAVE DISCUSSED MATTER OF \$5 MILLION CREDIT AT SOME LENGTH WITH LEBANESE MINISTER OF DEFENSE JOSEPH SKAFF. DATT HAS SENT REFTEL DESCRIBING PRESENT STATE OF PLAY AND REQUESTING A LITTLE MORE TIME TT ASSURE NO MISUNDERSTANDING RE GOL FINAL DECISION.

2. IN ESSENCE, WE DOUBT STRONGLY THAT GOL WILL BE IN A POSITION THIS FISCAL YEAR TO OBTAIN NECESSARY LEGAL AUTHORIZATION TO INCUR LOAN. MINISTER OF DEFENSE MORE OR LESS ADMITTED THIS TO BOTH DCM AND DATT. THERE SEEMS LITTLE DOUBT LEBANESE WANT LOAN BUT SIMPLY UNABLE AT PRESENT FOR POLITICAL REASONS TO OBTAIN PARLIAMENTARY APPROVAL TO ACCEPT LOAN AND SIGN AGREEMENT. THEY ARE STILL, HOWEVER, THRASHING AROUND FOR WAY OUT AND CONSEQUENTLY WE HOPE DEPARTMENT WILL AUTHORIZE A BIT MORE TIME (NOT LATER THAN MAY 15) TO MAKE SURE THERE NO MISUNDERSTANDING RE LEBANESE POSITION. WE UNDERSTAND YOUR PROBLEM AND WILL ENDEAVOR GIVE YOU FINAL ANSWER SOONEST.

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GODLEY

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Message Attributes

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